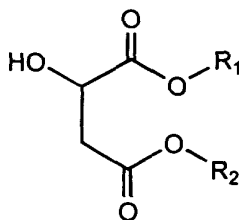


## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides water-based compositions, particularly coating, ink,  
5 fountain solution, adhesive and agricultural compositions, manifesting reduced  
equilibrium and dynamic surface tension by the incorporation of a surface tension  
reducing amount of certain malate diester compounds of the structure



10 where  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are C3 to C6 alkyl groups.

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